

What is claim is:

1. A rotary electronic component comprising:

5 a metallic annular contact including an arc-segmental portion split by a slit and a signaling contact portion electrically continuous with said arc-segmental portion;

a contact board portion having said annular contact fixed thereto by resin molding such that said annular contact is exposed on a top plane thereof; and

10 an elastic contact sliding on said contact board portion along said annular contact.

2. The rotary electronic component according to claim 1, wherein

15 said signaling contact portion is disposed on an inner side of said arc-segmental portion, and wherein said rotary electronic component further comprises a resin layer disposed parallel to said arc-segmental portion for covering an inner peripheral face of said annular contact.

3. The rotary electronic component according to claim 1, wherein

20 said component repeats ON-OFF states at a predetermined frequency following sliding movement of said elastic contact, and wherein an interval at which said elastic contact slides on said slit of said arc-segmental portion is included in an OFF state of an electric signal.

25 4. The rotary electronic component according to claim 1, wherein

said rotary electronic component has a plurality of said elastic contacts, of which a first elastic contact slides on said arc-segmental portion and a second

elastic contact slides on said signaling contact portion, and wherein said first elastic contact comes into contact with said slit when said second elastic contact is insulated from said signaling contact portion.

5 5. The rotary electronic component according to claim 1, wherein
said elastic contact has a plurality of contacting points electrically
continuous with each other and disposed at a pitch distance as long as at least
the width of said slit.

10 6. The rotary electronic component according to claim 1, wherein
said rotary electronic component generates an electric signal in
accordance with a predetermined rule throughout an entire sliding range of said
elastic contact sliding on said annular contact including portions of said slit of
said arc-segmental portion.

15 7. A method of manufacturing a rotary electronic component
comprising:

(A) insert-molding, with a resin metallic, contact plate having (1) an
annular contact, including an arc-segmental portion split by a slit and a
20 signaling contact portion in electrical continuation with said arc-segmental
portion and (2) a projected portion in such a shape as led out from both sides of
said slit and joined together at their ends, such that said metallic contact plate
including said projected portion is fixed in the resin molding with said annular
contact exposed on a top plane of the resin; and

25 (B) cutting off said projected portion at the joined portion thereby
forming a contact board portion.

8. The method of manufacturing a rotary electronic component according to claim 7, wherein, in step (A), a surface of a base end portion of said projected portion is kept from being covered by the resin.